



**STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
POLICY DIRECTIVE**

Policy No. DOC 3.2.3	Subject: AIRSPACE SECURITY
Chapter 3: FACILITY/PROGRAM OPERATIONS	Page 1 of 2
Section 2: Safety and Emergency Procedures	Effective Date: Sept. 1, 1998
Signature: /s/ Mike Ferriter, Director	Revised: 01/09/12

I. POLICY

It is the policy of the Department of Corrections to establish criteria for airspace security.

II. APPLICABILITY

Secure care facilities and programs Department-owned and contracted, as specified in contract.

III. DEFINITIONS

None

IV. DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVES

A. General Requirements

1. Facility administrators will ensure operational procedures are implemented and maintained in compliance with this policy.
2. A facility administrator, or designee, may clearly identify and mark aircraft landing areas outside the security perimeter with direct visual surveillance for emergency landings, rescue flights, public official and media visits.
3. The shift commander will alert all perimeter staff and others with a need-to-know status in advance of any authorized aircraft landing at the facility.

B. Temporary Air Restrictions

1. The facility administrator, or designee, may apply for temporary airspace restriction through the Federal Aviation Administration to protect persons or property from danger during disaster relief, or to prevent an unsafe congestion of sightseers and other aircraft above the site of an emergency.
2. The facility administrator, or designee, will alert the Department duty officer and facility control centers, perimeter posts, and other appropriate individuals when temporary air restriction(s) is placed and/or cancelled.

C. Emergency Landings

1. In the event an aircraft is attempting to land within the secure perimeter of a facility, staff will complete the following actions immediately:
 - a. alert the control center;
 - b. attempt to wave off the aircraft to discourage landing;

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- c. evacuate offenders and staff from the immediate area in accordance with [DOC 3.2.5, Internal Evacuations](#);
 - d. the landing site will be treated as a crime scene and preserved in accordance with [DOC 3.1.28, Crime Scene and Physical Evidence Preservation](#);
 - e. render first aid and summon medical staff, if necessary;
 - f. occupants will be detained in accordance with [DOC 3.1.5, Entrance Procedures and Detainment of Non-Offenders](#); and
 - g. notify law enforcement.
2. Staff will not fire upon the aircraft in the air or on the ground.

D. Unauthorized Entry into Airspace

1. Any staff that observes an aircraft flying close to the facility that is a potential threat to security will immediately notify the control center and communicate the following:
 - a. Identification Number of the aircraft (this number will start with an “N” in all aircraft except for military aircraft);
 - b. type, size, and color of aircraft;
 - f. location of aircraft in relation to the facility;
 - g. activities of aircraft (e.g., attempting to land, hovering, circling);
 - h. number of persons on board;
 - i. number of offenders in close proximity to aircraft;
 - j. approximate altitude of aircraft; and
 - k. direction of flight.

V. CLOSING

Questions concerning this policy should be directed to the Department Emergency Preparedness Planning Manager.

VI. REFERENCES

- A. [2-15-112, MCA](#); [53-1-203, MCA](#)
- B. [DOC Policies 3.1.5, Entrance Procedures and Detainment of Non-Offenders](#); [DOC 3.1.28, Crime Scene and Physical Evidence Preservation](#); [DOC 3.2.5, Internal Evacuations](#)

VII. ATTACHMENTS

None